

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (currently amended): In a ~~an optical video camera for capturing video images, said camera including an optical lens and an object tracking~~ system, a method of tracking a target object comprising the steps of:

- (a) initiating said object tracking system;
- (b) magnifying an image ~~captured by said video camera~~ while said object tracking system is activated;
- (c) selecting an object of interest in said image while said object tracking system is activated; and
- (d) designating said object as said target of said tracking system while said object tracking system is activated, wherein said magnification is automatically modified based upon a confidence that said object is being said tracked.

2. (currently amended): The method of claim 1 wherein said image is magnified by adjustment of an said optical lens.

3. (original): The method of claim 1 wherein said image is magnified by adjusting an electrical signal representing, at least, a part of said image.

4. (previously amended): The method of claim 1 wherein said magnification is an automatic result of said step of initiating said object tracking system.

5. (original): The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of automatically changing the scale of said image following designation of said object as said target.

6. (original): The method of claim 1 wherein said object of interest is selected by the steps of:

- (a) moving a cursor to superimpose said cursor on said object of interest in said image; and
- (b) signaling said tracking system that said cursor is superimposed on said object of interest.

7. (previously amended): The method of claim 1 wherein said step of designating is accomplished by using a touch sensitive display.

8. (previously amended): The method of claim 1 wherein said step of selecting said object of interest and said step of designating said object use a control mechanism that does not magnify said image.

9. (previously amended): The method of claim 1 wherein said steps of selecting and designating are performed simultaneously by touching a touch sensitive display.

10. (previously amended): The method of claim 9 wherein in response to initiating said object tracking system, said touch sensitive display is set to simultaneously perform said selecting and designating steps upon the next touch of said touch sensitive display.

11. (currently amended): The method of claim 6 wherein said image is magnified by adjustment of ~~said~~ an optical lens.

12. (original): The method of claim 6 wherein said image is magnified by adjusting an electrical signal representing, at least, a part of said image.

13. (previously amended): The method of claim 6 wherein said magnification is an automatic result of said step of initiating said object tracking system.

14. (original): The method of claim 6 further comprising the step of automatically changing the scale of said image following designation of said object as said target.

15. (original): The method of claim 1 wherein said object of interest is selected by the steps of:

- (a) moving said image to superimpose an image of a cursor on said object of interest; and
- (b) signaling said tracking system that said cursor is superimposed on said object of interest.

16. (previously amended): The method of claim 15 wherein in response to initiating said object tracking system, a touch sensitive display is set to simultaneously perform said steps of selecting and said designating upon the next touch of said touch sensitive display.

17. (original): The method of claim 15 wherein said image is magnified by adjustment of an optical lens.

18. (original): The method of claim 15 wherein said image is magnified by adjusting an electrical signal representing, at least, a part of said image.

19. (original): The method of claim 15 wherein said magnification is an automatic result of said initiating said object tracking system.

20. (original): The method of claim 15 further comprising the step of automatically changing the scale of said image following designation of said object as said target.

21. (currently amended): In a video ~~an optical video camera for capturing video images, said camera including an optical lens and an object tracking system, a method of selecting a target for said object tracking system~~ comprising the steps of:

- (a) magnifying an image;
- (b) designating an object in said image as a target for tracking by said tracking system; and
- (c) in response to said designating of said object as said target, automatically changing the scale of said image, wherein said scale is automatically modified based upon a confidence that said object is being said tracked.

22. (original): The method of claim 21 wherein said image is magnified by adjustment of an optical lens.

23. (original): The method of claim 21 wherein said image is magnified by adjusting electrical signals representing, at least, a part of said image.

24. (original): The method of claim 21 wherein said magnification is an automatic result of initiating said object tracking system.

25. (previously amended): The method of claim 21 wherein the step of designating of said object as said target comprises the steps of:

- (a) moving a cursor to superimpose said cursor on said object in said image; and
- (b) signaling said tracking system that said cursor is superimposed on said object.

26. (cancelled): The method of claim 21 wherein said first and second designating of said object as said target comprises the steps of:

- (a) moving said image to superimpose a cursor on said object; and
- (b) signaling said tracking system that said cursor is superimposed on said object.

27. (withdrawn): method of advising an operator of the performance of an object tracking system comprising the steps of:

- (a) monitoring a level of confidence that said tracking system is tracking a target; and
- (b) altering magnification of an image visible to said operator in response to a change in said level of confidence.

28. (withdrawn): The method of claim 27 wherein said magnification is changed as said level of confidence decreases.

29. (withdrawn): The method of claim 27 wherein said magnification is decreased if said object tracking system loses track of said target.

30. (previously amended): A method of selecting a target for an object tracking system comprising the steps of:

- (a) a first designating of an object in an image as a target for tracking by said tracking system;
- (b) magnifying said image if a second designating of at least one of said object and another object in said image is performed within a predetermined time period;
- (c) repeating steps (a) and (b) until said second designating is not said performed, and in response, tracking said object.

31. (original): The method of claim 30 wherein said first designating of said object comprises the steps of:

- (a) moving a cursor to superimpose said cursor on said object in said image; and
- (b) signaling said tracking system that said cursor is superimposed on said object.

32. (original): The method of claim 30 wherein further comprising the step of changing the magnification of said image in response to said tracking of said object.